

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

CLAIMS AS THEY NOW STAND - SEE BELOW FOR CLAIMS AS PROPOSED

1. - 6. (canceled).

7. (previously presented): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 11, wherein the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet is constituted by a sheet material in which a water vapor permeability on the basis of JIS Z-0208 method of test is 7000 g/m²/24h or more.

8. (currently amended): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 11, wherein the hydrophilic resin coating layer and the information mark layer have substantially the same shape, a length and width of the hydrophilic resin coating layer is greater than a length and width of the water content indicator coating layer, and wherein the water content indicator coating information mark layer and the hydrophilic resin coating layer have a thickness of 1 μm to 20 μm.

9. (currently amended): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 11, further comprising an ink layer disposed between the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet and the hydrophilic resin coating layer, wherein the ink layer is resistant to discoloration wherein the information mark layer is discolored when exposed to water.

10. (previously presented): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 11, wherein the hydrophilic resin coating layer comprises an ultraviolet absorbent, ultraviolet scattering agent, light stabilizer, or antioxidant.

11. (currently amended): An absorbent article comprising, in integral formation, at least, a rectangular liquid permeable top sheet, an absorbent element including an absorbent covered with a crepe paper, a rectangular water vapor permeable waterproof sheet, and a rectangular liquid impermeable back sheet in this order,

the absorbent article further comprising:

on a first portion of the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet, a water content indicator coating layer provided between the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet and the absorbent element,

the water content indicator coating layer comprising a hydrophilic resin coating layer and a layer of an information mark provided on an inner surface of the hydrophilic resin coating layer, and

a hydrophilic resin coating layer provided on a first portion of the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet and between the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet and the absorbent;

a water content indicator coating layer provided between the hydrophilic resin coating layer and the absorbent;

wherein a permeability of the first portion of the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet and the hydrophilic resin coating layer is lower than a permeability of a second

portion of the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet on which the hydrophilic resin coating layer is not provided on the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet.

12. (previously presented): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 11, wherein the hydrophilic resin coating layer and the water content indicator coating layer are arranged as strata.

13. (currently amended): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 8, wherein the hydrophilic resin coating layer covers an entirety of the ~~water content indicator coating~~ information mark layer when viewed from the liquid impermeable back sheet.

14. (currently amended): The absorbent article as set forth in claim 11, ~~further comprising an adhesive disposed between wherein~~ the water vapor permeable waterproof sheet and the liquid impermeable back sheet are adhered to each other with an adhesive.